

## Minutes of the Meeting of September 8, 1999

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**Members Present:** Richard Bacon, Pam Beeman, Jinfa Cai, Kate Conway-Turner, Thomas DiLorenzo, Bob Hampel, Ann McNeil, Cindy Okolo, Kate Scantlebury, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

**Members Absent:** Dan Rich

**Additional Faculty/Administrators:** Hayward Brock, Elaine Stotko

**Guests:** Angela Case, Larry Griffith, Gail Rys

The minutes of the June 9, 1999 meeting were approved.

Approval of Minutes of the June 9 Meeting.

### **Announcements**

#### *I. Delaware Teacher Recruitment Program*

Barbara VanDornick (DCTE) and Michael Stokes (A&S) secured a three-year federal grant to recruit outstanding candidates to teacher education. The grant is for nearly one million dollars, spread over a three-year period. The majority of the award is for student scholarships. Each student will receive \$8,000 for four years. The scholarship comes with the obligation to serve as an intern in one of the partnering Delaware school districts (Brandywine, Christina, and Red Clay) during the recipients' tenure at the University and to teach in a high-need school in Delaware following graduation.

#### *II. 1998-1999 Summary of UCTE Activities*

Carol Vukelich provided a summary of UCTE's 1998-1999 activities for UCTE's review.

#### *III. NCATE Celebration - Friday, September 24, 5:00-7:00*

Carol Vukelich encouraged all UCTE members to attend the NCATE celebration, sponsored by the Provost's Office, on Friday, September 24 at the Trabant Center.

#### *IV. September 16 Meeting: What do our students know and what can they do?*

The New Castle County Professional Development Council is sponsoring a New Castle County School Districts and UD faculty roundtable discussion about what our students know and can do. This first discussion will focus on the four core content areas.

#### *V. September 17 Meeting: Preparing a quality graduate student recruitment plan*

NCATE identified our graduate minority student recruitment plans as weak to non-existent. As UCTE knows, the Graduate Office provides funding to support each department's minority graduate student recruitment efforts. To facilitate the faculty preparation of quality professional education program recruitment plans, UCTE is sponsoring a session on how to write quality plans on Friday, September 17. Lunch will be provided.

## **Old Business**

### *I. Student Teaching Evaluation Form (Jinfa Cai, Angela Case, and Barbara VanDornick)*

An Ad Hoc Committee, composed of Barbara, Jinfa, and Angela, met to revise the Student Teaching Evaluation form. After discussion and comparison of the items on the form with the conceptual framework, members encouraged Barbara, Jinfa, and Angela to continue revising the form and to return to UCTE with a new instrument.

## **New Business**

### *I. Revision to the University Council on Teacher Education By-Laws*

Last year, UCTE approved a motion to include students on UCTE. Unfortunately, it did not revise UCTE By-Laws. Therefore, Carol Vukelich brought the following motion to UCTE to correct this oversight.

Moved: That the following new section, a section 4, be added to the By-Laws in Article 2: The ex-officio members of the Council each spring will select two professional education candidates, one from an undergraduate program and one from a graduate program to serve as student representatives to the Council. Students will be chosen from professional education programs in two different departments/schools to give voice to candidates in programs under the Council's jurisdiction and that the number of UCTE members be increased from 12 to 14.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Questions regarding how the students would be selected were raised. The chair was directed to invite program coordinators to nominate students for these positions. Based on the nominations received, two student members will be selected.

### *II. Admissions (Larry Griffith, Director)*

Larry Griffith came to discuss admissions to teacher education programs. He began by describing the new admission process. Two essays and teacher recommendations are now required. The revised process resulted in fewer students applying to the University, but in a higher yield from those who applied and were offered admission. The revised process also resulted in a lower yield of students of color. In the future, to increase the number of students of color, the Admissions Office will pursue those students of color who submit the first part of the application and appear to meet the criteria for admission more aggressively. The Office will call each of these students to initiate a communication process. Larry warns that care needs to be

taken in these communications; not all of these students will be accepted and the University does not wish to generate false hopes.

Last year, 245 students of color were admitted. This year only 12 fewer students of color were admitted. The SATs and GPAs for the students admitted are very strong.

The University is concerned with enrollments. It will be admitting fewer students next year. Larry warned UCTE that fewer admits likely will mean fewer minority students will be admitted. Barbara VanDornick supplemented Larry's presentation with fall 1999 enrollment data for teacher education programs.

### III. *ASPIRE (Gail Rys)*

The incoming freshman teacher education class (students new to the University of Delaware) is the lowest number ASPIRE has ever had. Like Larry, Gail believes the new admission policy had an affect on minority student enrollment numbers.

Overall, ASPIRE's numbers are down because the UD freshman minority student numbers were down. Twenty-five minority students graduated last year; this number was not replenished with the incoming class of freshmen. Gail noted that many minority students come into the University as undeclared majors. The Delaware Teacher Recruitment Program will target this group for recruitment into teacher education programs. Quality minority students are recruited by many institutions; often the students select the institution with the best financial aid package.

Last year was first year any ASPIRE student was dismissed from the university for poor academic performance.

### IV. *Program Review Procedures*

This item was delayed until the next meeting.

### V. *HEA Title II Guidelines*

Barbara VanDornick reminded UCTE that reporting our teacher education candidates pass rate on Praxis I, the only test the state currently requires for certification, will be a requirement as of this coming spring. Schools are going to be ranked according to their pass rate. As of April of this year, the pass rate will be publicized.

It appears that Wilmington College and Delaware State University have required Praxis I for the past three years. Since many UD students do not accept a teaching position in the State, we were hesitant to use Praxis I as a clearance for upper division or student teaching requirement. Last year, only 198 students who identified UD as their training institution took Praxis I and over 400 students graduated. We do not know that these 198 students actually graduated from an approved University of Delaware teacher education program. Barbara will be obtaining records from ETS and cross referencing them with UD graduate data to identify UD's actual pass rate.

UCTE was reminded that programs are revising their degree completion requirements to include the successful passing of Praxis I. Given the time needed to do this, Bob Hampel was asked to ensure that the EDUC 400 Student Teaching course description be revised immediately to require the successful passing of Praxis I as a prerequisite for this course. Bob agreed to move this forward.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Marie Senff and Carol Vukelich